

SECRET

BERZINS, Alfred

5 August 1955

RI Registry file #201-56793 reflected that Subject was chief of the "Aissargi" (Home Guard) originally organized in the 1920's, and consisting primarily of farmers. In 1934 this organization, under Subject, was instrumental in executing a "coup d'etat" in conjunction with the Latvian dictator, Karlis ULMANIS and his right-hand man, General Janis BALODIS.

RI Document #28-7-7-Y2, entitled "Summary of Enemy Intelligence Activities in Finland and the Baltic States," dated January 1944, reflected one A. BERZINS, aka Boris GUSKINS, KOKS, a Latvian, formerly a minister in the ULMANIS Cabinet in Latvia. He was in touch with the Japanese in Helsinki in 1940, through whom he obtained a Manchurian passport. He is described as an adventurer and untrustworthy.

RI Document #100-2-64-38 reflected a negative name check request on Subject from the United States Information Agency, dated 10 May 1954.

RI Document #100-134-1.7-291, a letter regarding Subject, dated 3 January 1955, reflected as follows: "Subject is variously described as 'the most dangerous Fascist in the United States,' and highly praised by representatives in the United States of the Latvian Government."

"Prior to 1940, he was Propaganda Minister of the ULMANIS Government, which is variously described as a paternal dictatorship, Fascist on the order of Germany and Italy; and as the Protector of Latvia from domination of the Soviets."

"The Subject is personally described, prior to 1940, as an opportunist who favored the ruling party in Latvia and a politically immature young man seeking to advance himself. As of 1951 he was considered a Latvian Nationalist in the United States whose influences on people in Latvia depending upon the effect Russian rule had on them."

"In view of the foregoing, it is recommended that Subject not be used. However, should you desire further inquiry concerning Subject and/or a determination, we will gladly take such action as is necessary upon receipt of a clearance request."

Sincerely,

Otherwise, NP11.

Special Agent  
Headquarters Field Office

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE/METHOD/EXEMPTION 3828  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2007